



PROGRESS REPORT

November 8, 2002

Key Tasks, Events & Milestones

Core Team Status – Some key staffing actions have been recently accomplished:

- **Nikki Dyke** from the Payette NF has been selected as the FS Core Team member. Nikki's reporting date is December 2.
- **Jeff Manley** from the Sequoia-Kings Canyon NP has been selected as the NPS Core Team Member. Jeff's reporting date is November 4.
- **John Noneman** from the BLM-IRM staff at NIFC will begin a 120 day detail as Deputy Project Manager starting November 18.
- The BIA has a "cert" for their Core Team member. Selection is pending.

Once the BIA Core Team Member is in place, the Core Team will be complete.

Exhibit 300 / Business Case – The OMB A-11 Exhibit 300 is a key document that describes the business case for this project in detail. The successful business case supports budgets and funding for the project. The final FPA Exhibit 300 was completed and submitted through USDA on October 16.

Project Charter – The project charter has been completed. The NWCG Program Management Office (PMO) will advise the NWCG IRM Working Team to recommend the FFALC approve the charter. The completion of the project charter represents accomplishment of a significant milestone.

Requirements Specifications - Work is well underway developing formal requirements specifications. The description and documentation of the requirements specifications is expected to continue from mid-September through the end of January 2003. Complete and thorough requirements specifications will help get the Design & Build contractor up to speed as quickly as possible once the task order is signed.

Design & Build Contract – A key project milestone is beginning the contract task order to design and build the FPA Preparedness Module. The Request for Proposals (RFP) for this important contract action is under development. The first draft will be ready for a review by the FPA Core Team by November 19. Target date for issuing the RFP is January 15.

Communications

October 9	Briefing to Greater Yellowstone Coordinating Group (GYCG), Jackson, WY.
October 29-31	Interviews with FS Fire Planners, Portland, OR
November 4-7	Interviews with NFMAS Faculty, Phoenix, AZ
November 13	Presentation to FS Fire Planners, New Orleans, LA



Issues & Risks

Key risks that have been addressed in the last month include:

USDA Waiver – The FS WO IRM Staff has taken on the responsibility for obtaining the waiver from the 1998 USDA IT spending moratorium. The waiver must be in place in order to award a task order for the “Design & Build” contract. The project has been assured by the IRM staff that the required technical approval and waiver will be granted in time to award the Design & Build task order.

Significant risks that remain on the risk radar include:

Budgeting and Funding – In order to award a task order to the contractor funding must be in place. Limited funds are available in FY’02 to initiate the contract. If funding is delayed in FY’03 due to a series of continuing resolutions, proceeding to system development by the contractor may be delayed.

New Model - The FPA Preparedness Module will be using an optimization approach to determine cost effective means of meeting multiple management objectives. Since this is a new approach, completing the formulation prior to awarding the Design & Build task order is critical. The project is working with Dr. Doug Rideout, Professor of Forest Economics at Colorado State University to develop this optimization model.